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GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALABAMA
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
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JOHN M. HOUSTON
COMMISSIONER

August 1, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: All 310 Boards

FROM: John M. Houston, Commissioner *John Houston*

RE: Finding for Name Change Amendment of Articles of Incorporation

Effective August 1, 2009, this agency became the Alabama Department of Mental Health. This change reflects the Department's long-term effort to remove the "R" word from its title, resulting in passage of Act 2009-635 earlier this year.

I know that all 310 Boards that have the offensive term in their titles will desire to amend their respective Articles of Incorporation to reflect a more appropriate title. *Code of Alabama*, § 22-51-7 provides that the initial step in this process is for the board of directors to adopt a resolution, "subject to the approval of the Alabama Department of Mental Health." **By this memo, I hereby grant blanket approval for all boards to adopt resolutions to amend their articles of incorporation to remove the "R" word from their titles.** This memo may be presented to all governing bodies as my finding that **such amendments are clearly in the public interest as contemplated by Code of Alabama, § 22-51-7 (3).**

Should you have any questions concerning the foregoing, please contact David Jackson, Associate Commissioner for Administration, at (334) 395-6824.